



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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GOVERNOR

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**HAWAII SUPPORTS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S
MEMORIAL FLAG DAY**

HONOLULU - The Hawaii State Department of Health's Maternal and Child Health Branch (MCHB) and the State Department of Human Services have joined the Child Welfare League of America's (CLWA) nationwide Children's Memorial Flag Initiative. On Friday, April 22nd the flag honoring each child lost to maltreatment will fly all day at the State Capital.

In 1998, CWLA launched this public awareness campaign to direct attention to the tragedy of violent child deaths as part of a national initiative to reduce child mortality. For the past three years, all 50 Governors have united in an impressive bipartisan effort by flying the flag, issuing proclamations, or participating in ceremonies to memorialize children.

Althea M. Kamau, MCHB Chief said, "The abuse and loss of a child in our community is a personal assault on all of us. The protection of our children is everyone's kuleana. Let us all become vigilant partners in the prevention of violence and the protection of Hawaii's children and families."

The State is committed to providing better and more comprehensive services to children and families who need support. MCHB/DOH has partnered with Department of Human Services to service families involved with Child Welfare Services to help strengthen the family and better support the child.

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